In the claims:

Please cancel claims 65-78.

Please add new claims 79-85:

79. (New) A method for determining the presence of colon cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining a biological sample from the patient;

(b) contacting the biological sample with an oligonucleotide that hybridizes under moderately stringent conditions to a polynucleotide sequence comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(i) SEQ ID NO:21, and

(ii) sequences having at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO:21;

(c) detecting in the sample an amount of oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide; and

(d) comparing the amount of oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide to a predetermined cut-off value, wherein an increase in the amount of oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide as compared to the predetermined cut-off value indicates the presence of cancer in the patient.

80. (New) The method according to claim 79 wherein the amount of oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide is determined using a polymerase chain reaction.

81. (New) The method according to claim 79 wherein the amount of oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide is determined using a hybridization assay.

82. (New) A method for monitoring the progression of colon cancer in a patient, comprising:

(a) obtaining a biological sample from the patient;

(b) contacting the biological sample with an oligonucleotide that hybridizes under moderately stringent conditions to a polynucleotide sequence comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(i) SEQ ID NO:21, and

(ii) sequences having at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO:21;

(c) detecting in the sample an amount of oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide;

(d) repeating steps (a)-(c) wherein the biological sample is obtained from the patient at a subsequent point in time; and

(e) comparing the amount of oligonucleotide detected in (d) to the amount detected in (c) wherein an increase in the amount of oligonucleotide in step (d) as compared to the amount of oligonucleotide in step (c) indicates progression of said colon cancer and wherein a decrease in the amount of oligonucleotide in step (d) as compared to the amount of oligonucleotide in step (c) indicates a remission of said colon cancer.

83. (New) The method according to claim 82 wherein the amount of oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide is determined using a polymerase chain reaction.

84. (New) The method according to claim 82 wherein the amount of oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide is determined using a hybridization assay.